

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ ﴿۱﴾

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious,
the Most Merciful.

AN INVITATION TO THE TRUTH

THERE IS NO GOD BUT ALLAH;
MUHAMMAD (ﷺ) IS THE
MESSENGER OF ALLAH

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No.	Chapters	Page
1	Introduction	3
2	The Natural Religion confirmed by the Revelation – the Qur'an and the Sunnah	10
3	The Scientific Facts and the Qur'an	14
4	The Historical Facts and the Qur'an	23
5	The Prophecies in the Qur'an and the Prophecies of Muhammad (ﷺ) in Various Religious Scriptures	26
6	The Truthfulness and Trustworthiness of Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ)	29
7	The Inimitability of the Qur'an	31
8	The Design in the Universe	34
9	The Big Bang: Chaos or Order!	36
10	The Dependency	37
11	The Comprehensive and Noble Teachings	40
12	The Remarkable Accuracy and Perfection of the Qur'an	42
13	The Preservation of the Qur'an, the Sunnah and the Arabic Language	44
14	Where is Allah?	46
15	Conclusion	49
*	Recommended Study Material	54

(1) Introduction

The belief in the Unseen (*Al-Gayb*) is fundamental to Islam. It includes the belief in Allah¹, His Message and Messengers, including the final Prophet, Muhammad² (ﷺ)³, as the foundation for all Islamic teachings. This belief is based on convincing evidence and profound wisdom. We, the Muslims, believe in:

- (i) Allah – the only true God, besides whom there is none worthy of worship. He is the uncreated and sole Creator, Sustainer and Lord of the entire Creation. He has no partner, assistant, equal or rival. He does not have any child or parent. He is unique and distinct from His creation. None of His creations resembles Him. He is the All-Knowing, the All-Powerful, the Lord and Cherisher of the Worlds, the Greatest, the Ever-Living, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.
- (ii) The angels created by Allah from the light which too is a creation of Allah. Angels have allocated tasks and never disobey Allah. They are not considered to have any gender. The Qur'an 37:150; 43:19; and 53:27-28 disapprove of the female gender which the idolaters ascribed to them. Muslim scholars are unanimous that the angels do not eat, drink or reproduce. The names of few angels are revealed in the Glorious Qur'an and the Saheeh Ahadeeth which include *Jibreel* (Gabriel), *Mika'eel* (Michael), *Israafeel* and *Malak-ul-Mawt* (the Angel of Death).
- (iii) The Prophets, who are the finest men chosen by Allah to whom He sent revelations for the guidance of people, starting with Aadam (Adam) – the first

¹ The Qur'an 47:20; 16:36; 21:25; 2:255; 21:92; 6:102; 17:23; ...

² The Qur'an 48:29; 33:40; 3:144; ...

³ Pronounced as *Sallallaahu Alaihi Wa Sallam*, it means: "May Allah's blessings and peace be on him!"

- human being – and including Nooh (Noah), Sulayman (Solomon), Dawood (David), Ibraheem (Abraham), Musa (Moses), Eesa (Jesus) among many others – peace be upon them – and concluding with the final Prophet, Muhammad (ﷺ).
- (iv) The Books revealed by Allah to His Prophets, including the Torah revealed to Musa (*alayhis-salaam*)¹, the Zaboor revealed to Dawood (*alayhis-salaam*), the Injeel revealed to Eesa (*alayhis-salaam*) and the Qur'an revealed to Muhammad (ﷺ).
 - (v) The Day of Judgment – a Day, after the end of this world, when all humankind will be resurrected by Allah and held accountable and recompensed for what they did in this world. The righteous (who worship Allah alone and obey His Messenger) will enter Paradise and the wicked (who worship other than Allah and deny His Messenger) will enter Hell.
 - (vi) Al-Qadr which is the Destiny which Allah has destined for every creature. Human destiny includes that we are given a limited free will to make choices between good and evil during this worldly life for which we will be held accountable on the Day of Judgment.

These are the six fundamental articles of our Faith.² All of them are related to the Unseen. Though the companions of the Prophets saw the Prophets but the belief that they were the Prophets is related to the Unseen. Whenever Allah sent His Messengers, He also gave them miracles and signs to convince their people beyond any doubt that they were indeed the Messengers of Allah. These miracles and signs could be seen and observed by the people. They were from among those things which are visible and observable (*Ash-Shahadah*) with the will of Allah. No creation has any knowledge except what Allah has granted to it. Only Allah has full knowledge of the all

¹ *Alayhis-Salaam* means: “Peace be upon him!”

² Saheeh Muslim, Kitaab-ul-Eemaan, Hadeeth 93.

things, whether in Al-Gayb or in Ash-Shahadah. Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) was given several miracles, the paramount of which is the Glorious Qur'an.

The Arabic word ‘Islam’ means to submit your will to Allah and acquire peace. Islam is the only religion and way of life ordained by Allah since the very beginning through all His Prophets from Aadam to Muhammad (peace be upon them). It is the only Religion and Way of Life acceptable before Him.¹ It is not a new religion nor is Muhammad (ﷺ) its founder. The fundamental sources to know about Islam are the Qur'an and the Saheeh Ahadeeth. The Qur'an is the Speech of Allah – not created, but revealed by Him to His final Messenger, Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ), who memorized it, implemented it practically, taught it to his companions and made the scribes among his companions record it. The Saheeh Ahadeeth are the authentic narrations in which the Sunnah or the Way of the Prophet (ﷺ) is recorded. The Sunnah of the Prophet (ﷺ) includes his sayings, actions, approvals etc. The Saheeh Ahadeeth act as explanation of the Qur'an and they never contradict the Qur'an. There are many books of Hadeeth, such as Saheeh Al-Bukhari, Saheeh Muslim, and several others. The Qur'an and the Saheeh Ahadeeth are the only final and infallible authority in Islam. The five basic principles of Islam are (i) to bear witness that there is no god but Allah and that Muhammad ﷺ is the Messenger of Allah, (ii) to establish the Salah, (iii) to pay the Zakah, (iv) to fast (the month of) Ramadhaan and (v) to perform pilgrimage to the House (i.e., the Ka'bah in Makkah) if one has the means.²

If a person does not see or know God or is in doubt about God's existence, it does not justify the denial of the

¹ The Noble Qur'an, Surah Aali-Imran (3), Ayah 19 and 85.

² Saheeh Muslim, Kitaab-ul-Eemaan, Hadeeth 93.

existence of God. For instance, if I do not know you or I am in doubt about your existence, it does not mean that you do not exist. A person may be unaware or doubtful or lazy to know that Islam is the truth. However, ignorance or doubt or laziness to know about anything does not negate the existence of that thing. Some people say, “The (absolute) truth is unknown and unknowable,” however, this statement of theirs is also not the (absolute) truth according to this statement itself. And they contradict themselves again when they presume that they know enough about the (absolute) truth to assert that it is unknowable and unknown. Moreover, if they do not know, it does not mean that no one else knows. Hence, their statement is self-refuting. This book discusses some proofs for the truthfulness of Islam. It is intended to present the message in a very brief manner, provide satisfactory answers to the sincere seekers of truth and encourage them to study more. A study material is recommended at the end of the book for more details and knowledge about Islam.

One of the grand and noble aspects of Islam, which is one of the major reasons for the rapid, peaceful and organic spread of Islam throughout the world, is that it encourages reasoning and seeking knowledge. The Qur'an repeatedly instructs us to seek knowledge and understanding, to reason and ponder the creation of Allah and consider our own selves and reflect on the verses of the Qur'an stating that there are signs, proofs and evidences for Islam being the truth. The Saheeh Ahadeeth also exhort us to seek beneficial knowledge. Some of such Qur'anic verses and Saheeh Ahadeeth are presented here with English interpretation of their meanings.

﴿قُلْ هُنَّهُنِّ سَيِّئُونَ أَدْعُوكُمْ إِلَى اللَّهِ عَلَى بَصِيرَةٍ أَنَا وَمَنِ اتَّبَعَنِي وَلَا
سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَمَا أَنَا مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ﴾

“Say (O Prophet): This is my way; I invite to Allah with certain knowledge, I and those who follow me. And exalted is Allah; and I am not of the idolaters.”

[The Qur'an 12:108]¹

﴿لَئِنْ فِي خَلْقِ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَآخْتِلَافِ الَّيلِ وَالنَّهَارِ لَآيَاتٍ
لِّأُولَئِكَ الْأَبْيَابِ﴾

“Behold! In the creation of the heavens and the earth, and in the alternation of night and day, – there are indeed Signs for those who have understanding.”

[The Qur'an 3:190]

﴿وَلَا تَقْفَ مَا لَيْسَ لَكَ بِهِ عِلْمٌ ۚ لَئِنِ السَّمْعَ وَالْبَصَرَ وَالْفُؤَادَ
كُلُّ أُولَئِكَ كَانَ عَنْهُ مَسْتَوْلًا﴾

“Do not follow that of which you do not have knowledge. Indeed, the hearing, the vision and the understanding – each of them is going to be questioned about.”

[The Qur'an 17:36]

﴿إِنَّمَا يَخْشَى اللَّهُ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ الْعَلَمُونَ﴾

“Verily, those fear Allah, from among His slaves, who are the knowledgeable.”[The Qur'an 35:28]

﴿أَفَلَا تَعْقِلُونَ﴾

¹ That is, Ayah no. 108 of the Surah no. 12. Surah (i.e., a chapter of the Qur'an) refers to any of the 114 sections of the Qur'an. Ayah means a 'Sign' and it is also translated as a 'verse'. Its plural is Aayaat. A Surah contains a number of Aayaat. The shortest contains only 3 while the longest contains 286 Aayaat.

“Do you not (and will you not) reason?”

[The Qur'an 6:32; 7:169; 10:16; 11:51; 12:109; 21:10; 21:67]

﴿يَجْعَلُ الرِّجْسَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ لَا يَقْتَلُونَ﴾

“And He (Allah) places filth upon those who do not reason.”

[The Qur'an 10:100]

﴿فُلْ هُلْ يَسْتَوِي الَّذِينَ يَعْلَمُونَ وَالَّذِينَ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ۖ إِنَّمَا يَتَذَكَّرُ أُولُوا الْأَلْبَابِ﴾

“Say: ‘Are those who know equal to those who do not know?’ Indeed, those who have understanding take heed.”

[The Qur'an 39:9]

﴿يَفَصِّلُ الْآيَاتِ لَعَلَّكُمْ بِاللَّقاءِ رَيْكُمْ تُوقَنُونَ﴾

“He (Allah) details the Signs so that you become sure in the meeting with your Lord.”

[The Qur'an 13:2]

﴿كِتَابٌ أَنزَلْنَاهُ إِلَيْكَ مُبَرَّكٌ لِّيَدْبَرُوا أَيْمَهُ وَ لِيَتَذَكَّرُ أُولُوا الْأَلْبَابِ﴾

“(This Qur'an is) a blessed Book which We have revealed to you, (O Prophet), that they might reflect on its verses and that those who have understanding would be reminded.”

[The Qur'an 38:29]

﴿سَنُرِيهِمْ أَيْتَنَا فِي الْأَفَاقِ وَ فِي أَفْسُوهِمْ حَتَّىٰ يَتَبَيَّنَ لَهُمْ أَنَّهُ الْحَقُّ﴾

“We will show them Our Signs in the horizons and within themselves until it becomes clear to them that this is the truth.”

[The Qur'an 41:53]

﴿ أَفَلَا يَنْدِيرُونَ الْقُرْآنَ ۚ وَلَوْ كَانَ مِنْ عِنْدٍ غَيْرِ اللَّهِ لَوْجِدُوا فِيهِ
اخْتِلَافًا كَثِيرًا ﴾

“Do they not reflect on the Qur'an? Had it been from (any) other than Allah, surely they would have found in it much discrepancy.”

[The Qur'an 4:82]

﴿ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ قَدْ جَاءَكُمْ بِرَحْمَةٍ مِّنْ رَّبِّكُمْ وَأَنزَلْنَا إِلَيْكُمْ نُورًا مُّبِينًا ﴾
“O humankind! There has indeed come to you a decisive proof from your Lord, and We have sent down to you a manifest light (of guidance).”

[The Qur'an 4:174]

﴿ قُلْ رَبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا ﴾

“Say: My Lord, increase me in knowledge!”

[The Qur'an 20:114]

The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

﴿ طَلَبُ الْعِلْمِ فَرِيضَةٌ عَلَى كُلِّ مُسْلِمٍ ﴾

“The seeking of knowledge is an obligation on every Muslim.”

[Sunan Ibn Majah, Kitab as-Sunnah, Hadeeth 224; The portion quoted is classified as Saheeh by Imam Albani]

The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

﴿ مَنْ سَلَكَ طَرِيقًا يَتَمِسُّ فِيهِ عِلْمًا سَهَّلَ اللَّهُ لَهُ بِهِ طَرِيقًا إِلَى
الْجَنَّةِ ﴾

“Whoever treads a path in order to seek knowledge, Allah makes a path to Paradise easy for him.” [Saheeh Muslim, Kitab az-Zikr wad-Dua wat-Tawbah wal-Istigfaar, Hadeeth 6853]

(2) The Natural Religion confirmed by the Revelation – the Qur'an and the Sunnah

The belief in Allah is not only the inevitable outcome of sound intellectual reasoning and overwhelming evidence but it is also natural to human being. A major research in the University of Oxford's Centre for Anthropology and Mind concluded that the belief in God is part of human nature.¹ Dr Justin L. Barret, who directed the project, said that human beings are “born believers”.² There are other researches also which say that the belief in God is hard-wired into the human brain³ and that the people who are most satisfied and happy with their lives are those who believe in God (especially those who believe in the Oneness of God)⁴ while those who disbelieve in God are the least happy as a whole with the highest suicide rate.⁵ There are other researches also which affirm this fact.

Moreover, when one is caught in a problem, especially when one is disconnected from everyone and there is no one who can listen and help (except God), then calling God for help even by those who deny the existence of God also shows that this belief in the All-Knowing and All-Powerful God is natural. Just as everyone knows that justice is right and injustice is wrong, similarly the knowledge and consciousness of Allah's existence is inherent to every human being. Some conceal and do not

¹ The Telegraph, UK (12 May 2011)

² Born Believers: The Science of Children's Religious Belief (Justin L. Barrett, 2012)

³ Key Psychological Issues in the Study of Religion (Olivera Petrovich, 2007)

⁴ The Daily Mail, UK (10 May 2019)

⁵ Religious Affiliation and Suicide Attempt (The American Journal of Psychiatry, December 2004)

affirm it. They befool themselves. Researches affirm this fact but one does not need any research since this knowledge is within him. The Arabic word ‘Kufr’ usually translated as ‘disbelief’ also means ‘concealing’ (the truth) and ‘being ungrateful’ (to Allah). The Qur'an and the Saheeh Ahadeeth revive, confirm and strengthen the belief in Allah by providing more clear signs, decisive evidence and conclusive proof. Allah has not left human beings on their innate nature alone. Allah has sent His Guidance through His Prophets and Messengers from the very beginning to all people and in all ages, besides giving us a sound nature and ability to reason. The majority of people in history have had the belief in God, although they associated with Him in different times and places, due to various influences, some other beings. The best explanation of this natural belief in the one true God is that Allah has put this into human being.

﴿ ثُمَّ سَوَّهُ وَ نَفَخَ فِيهِ مِنْ رُوْحِهِ وَ جَعَلَ لَكُمُ السَّمْعَ وَ الْأَبْصَارَ وَ
الْأَفْئِدَةَ ۝ قَلِيلًا مَا تَشْكِرُونَ ﴾

“He (Allah) proportioned him (the human being) and breathed into him from His (created) soul¹ and made for you (O human beings) hearing and vision and understanding; little are you grateful.”
[The Qur'an 32:9]

﴿ وَ نَسِيْسٌ وَ مَا سَوِّهَا ۝ فَالْهَمَّهَا فُجُورَهَا وَ نَتْوَهَا ۝ قَدْ أَفْلَحَ
مَنْ زَكَّهَا ۝ وَ قَدْ خَابَ مَنْ دَسَّهَا ۝ ﴾

¹ It is created by Allah for that body, not a part of Allah as some mistakenly believe. Allah calls it His soul (i) because everything belongs to Allah and He is the owner of everything and (ii) in order to give it a special honour.

“By the soul and He who proportioned it and inspired it (with the discernment of) what is wrong for it and what is right for it, indeed successful is the one who purifies it, and indeed unsuccessful is the one who corrupts it.”

[The Qur'an 91:7-10]

﴿ أَلَا يَذْكُرُ اللَّهُ تَطْمِئْنُ الْقُلُوبُ ﴾

“Indeed, in the remembrance of Allah the hearts find satisfaction.” [The Qur'an 13:28]

The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

﴿ مَا مِنْ مَوْلُودٍ إِلَّا يُولَدُ عَلَى الْفِطْرَةِ فَأَبْوَاهُ هُوَ دَانِهُ وَيُنَصِّرُهُ وَيُبَشِّرُ كَانَهُ ﴾

“There is no child who is not born in a state of the Fitrah (the natural inclination to worship Allah alone) and then his parents make him a Jew or a Christian or an idolater.”

[Saheeh Muslim, Kitab al-Qadr, Hadeeth 6758]

The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said that Allah said:

﴿ إِنِّي خَلَقْتُ عِبَادِي حُنَفَاءَ كُلَّهُمْ وَإِنَّمَا أَنْهَاكُمُ الشَّيَاطِينُ فَاجْتَهَلُوهُمْ عَنْ دِيَرِهِمْ وَحَرَّمْتُ عَلَيْهِمْ مَا أَحَلَّتُ لَهُمْ وَأَمْرَتُهُمْ أَنْ يُشْرِكُوا بِي مَا لَمْ أُنْزِلْ بِهِ سُلْطَانًا ﴾

“I have created all My slaves Hunafaa (with the inclination to worship Allah alone), but the devils come to them and turn them away from their religion (true path). They forbid to them that which I have permitted to them, and they tell them to associate others with Me for which I have not sent down any authority.” [Saheeh Muslim, Kitab al-Jannah wa Sifati Na'eemiha Wa Ahliha, Hadeeth 7207]

The psychological constitution of human being is such that he believes in Allah, unless he is conditioned to disbelieve. The belief in Allah gives a person the true peace which makes him lead a balanced, positive and humble life, being grateful for countless blessings of Allah and especially grateful in prosperity and patient in hardships. The rejection of Allah takes this peace away. An unbiased study of the Creation and the Qur'an strengthens a person's belief in Allah and in His Message and Messengers.

(3) The Scientific Facts and the Qur'an

The Glorious Qur'an speaks with the perfect knowledge of the Creator about His creation. It convinces a sincere seeker of truth that it is the truth from Allah, the one and only true God. The facts mentioned in the Qur'an 1400 years ago and confirmed recently by science raise the question of the source of information in the Qur'an which is none other than Allah. These include:

* The Common Origin of the Heavens and the Earth

﴿أَوْ لَمْ يَرَ الظِّنَّ كُفَّارُوا أَنَّ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ كُلُّهَا رِبْطٌ مَّا فَقَدَنَا مِنْهَا﴾

“Do not the unbelievers consider (the fact) that the heavens and the earth were joined together (as one unit of creation), before We clove them asunder?” [The Qur'an 21:30]

It must be kept in mind that the Qur'an is in Arabic language preserved till today. No translation can replace the original Arabic text of the Qur'an, nor is any translation meant to do so. The common origin here does not necessarily mean a particular model of ‘the Big Bang’.

* There was an Initial Smoke-like Material before the Creation of Galaxies

﴿ثُمَّ اسْتَوَى إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَهُنَّ دُخَانٌ﴾

“Moreover, He comprehended in His design the sky, and it had been (as) smoke.” [The Qur'an 41:11]

Modern science confirms that the universe was once in a state of smoke. The word ‘smoke’ is more appropriate than the word ‘gas’ for that initial celestial matter.

* The Universe is Expanding

﴿وَالسَّمَاءَ بَثَثْنَا بِأَيْدِيهِ وَإِنَّا لَمُوسِعُونَ﴾

“And We constructed the heaven with strength,
and indeed, We are (its) expander.”
[The Qur'an 51:47]

* The Sun and the Moon Rotate on their Axes and Revolve
in their Own Orbits

﴿ هُوَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ اللَّيلَ وَالنَّهَارَ وَالشَّمْسَ وَالْقَمَرَ كُلُّ فِي فَلَكٍ يَسْبَحُونَ ﴾

“It is He who created the night and the day and
the sun and the moon; all travel, each in an orbit
(with its own motion).” [The Qur'an 21:33]

Similar information is given in the Qur'an (36:40).

* The Spherical Shape of the Earth

﴿ يَنْكُوِرُ اللَّيلَ عَلَى النَّهَارِ وَيَنْكُوِرُ النَّهَارَ عَلَى اللَّيلِ وَسَخَّرَ الشَّمْسَ وَالْقَمَرَ كُلُّ كُلُّ بَيْرِي لِأَجْلٍ مُسَمٍّ ﴾

“He wraps the night over the day and wraps the
day over the night and has subjected the sun and
the moon (to His command), each running (its
course) for a specified term.” [The Qur'an 39:5]

The Arabic verb used is Kawwara which means ‘to overlap’
or ‘to coil’ or ‘to wind’ (the way a turban is wound around
the head) and ‘to make round or ball-shaped or spherical’.
The coiling of the night and the day is thus like making a
ball-shape which means that the earth, around which they
are coiled, is like a ball – a roughly spherical mass. The
Qur'an 21:33; 36:40; 31:29; and 79:30 also point to the
spherical shape of the earth.

* The Sky is a Protected Ceiling

﴿ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اعْبُدُوا رَبِّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ لَعِلْمُكُمْ تَشْكُونَ ﴾ الَّذِي جَعَلَ لَكُمُ الْأَرْضَ فِرَاشًا وَالسَّمَاءَ بَنَاءً ۚ وَأَنْزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً فَأَخْرَجَ بِهِ مِنَ الْأَرْضِ رِزْقًا لَكُمْ ۝ فَلَا تَجْعَلُوا لِلَّهِ أَنْدَادًا وَآتُوهُمْ تَعْلِمُونَ ﴾

“O humankind! Worship your Lord, who created you and those before you, that you may become righteous and protected (from evil and His displeasure) – He who made the earth a floor for you and the sky a canopy and sent down water from the sky and brought forth thereby fruits as provision for you. So do not set up rivals to Allah knowingly.” [The Qur'an 2:21-22]

﴿ وَجَعَلْنَا السَّمَاءَ سَقَفاً مَحْفُظًا وَهُمْ عَنِ ابْيَهَا مُغَرِّضُونَ ﴾

“And We made the sky a protected ceiling, but they, from its signs, are turning away.”

[The Qur'an 21:32]

The word *as-Samaa* translated as the sky basically means that which is above, high or lofty and it includes the seven heavens. Depending on the context, it refers to the atmosphere (for instance, when speaking about rain, clouds, being canopy etc.) or to the first heaven (*as-Samaa ad-Dunya*), the limits of which are best known to Allah alone, and if it occurs as *Samawaat* (plural), then it may refer to the layers of atmosphere, the zones of cosmos or to the seven heavens whose best interpretation is known to Allah alone. The atmosphere prevents the harmful radiation and matter from the outer space from reaching the earth. It acts as a protected ceiling and roof.

* Human Being Created from Alaqah

﴿ إِقْرَا بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ ﴾ خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَنْقٍ ﴾

“Recite in the name of your Lord who created –
(He) created the human being from Alaq.”
[The Qur'an 96:1-2; also see 23:12-14 and 22:5]

Alaqah is the singular of Alaq. It means a leech-like substance, something that clings and a blood clot. The human embryo in the initial stages looks like a leech (and even behaves like a leech, blood sucker), clings to the wall of uterus and acquires the appearance of a blood clot.

* *The Sun is Running to its Stopping Point*

﴿ وَالشَّمْسُ تَحْرِي لِمَسْتَقِرٍ لَهَا ﴾

“The sun runs on its fixed course for a term (or to a place) determined.” [The Qur'an 36:38]

* *The Subtle Difference between Sunlight and Moonlight*

﴿ تَبَرَّكَ الَّذِي جَعَلَ فِي السَّمَاءِ بِرْوَجًا وَ جَعَلَ فِيهَا سِرْجًا وَ قَمَرًا مُنِيرًا ﴾

“Blessed is He who made constellations in the sky, and placed therein a lamp (the sun) and a shining moon.” [The Qur'an 25:61]

The sun is mentioned as *Siraaj* (a torch) or *Wahhaaj* (a blazing lamp) or *Dhiya* (a shining glory) in the Qur'an while the moon is mentioned in the Qur'an as *Muneer* (a body that gives or reflects light). The vice-versa never occurs in the Qur'an. Also see the Qur'an 10:5 and 71:15-16.

* *The Mountains are like Pegs and Stakes and they give Stability to the Earth's Crust*

﴿ وَالْجِبالُ أَوْتَادًا ﴾

“And (have We not made) the mountains as stakes?” [The Qur'an 78:6-7]

﴿ خَلَقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ بِغَيْرِ عَمَدٍ تَرْوِيهَا وَ الْأَرْضَ فِي الْأَرْضِ رَوَاسِيَ آنَّ
 تَمْيِيدَ بِكُمْ ﴾

“He created the heavens without pillars that you see and has cast into the earth firmly set mountains, lest it should shift with you.”

[The Qur'an 31:10]

Also see the Qur'an 21:31; 79:32; 88:19 and 16:15.

* The Stages of Embryonic Development

﴿ وَ لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ سُلَّمَةٍ ○ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَاهُ نُطْفَةً
 فِي قَرَارٍ مَكِينٍ ○ ثُمَّ خَلَقْنَا النُّطْفَةَ عَلَقَةً فَخَلَقْنَا الْعَلَقَةَ مُضْعَفَةً
 فَخَلَقْنَا الْمُضْعَفَةَ عِظِيمًا فَكَسَوْنَا الْعَظِيمَ لَهُمَا ثُمَّ أَنْشَأْنَاهُ خَلْقًا أَخْرَى
 فَبَرَكَ اللَّهُ أَحْسَنُ الْخَلْقِينَ ﴾

“And certainly, We created human being from an extract of clay. Then We placed him as a drop (containing fertilized ovum) in a firm lodging (i.e., mother's womb). Then We made the drop into a clinging clot, and We made the clot into a lump (of flesh), and We made (from) the lump, bones, and We covered the bones with flesh; then We developed him into another creation. So blessed is Allah, the best of creators.”

[The Qur'an 23:12-14; also see the Qur'an 22:5]

The list goes on and requires volumes to be explained. Amazing accuracies without errors! It must be noted that the Noble Qur'an is not a book of science but it is the book of guidance from Allah, the All-Knowing, for the whole of humankind. When it says, for instance, that human being has been created from Alaqah it is not to teach us embryology but to show us Allah's signs and to point us towards our origin in order to put us at our proper place.

A lot has been written concerning Islam and modern sciences and the research in this field continues which will bring humankind closer to the Word of Allah, *In Sha Allah*. This booklet mentions only a few facts very briefly. Please refer to the Recommended Study Material for details on these and information about many others.

It is common in every language that one word has many meanings and one has to take the right meanings. Some people ‘allege’ that words with multiple meanings are used in the Qur'an so that they fit in human understanding in every age. Though exceptional richness is a merit of the Arabic language, what is ‘alleged’ can be done only by the one who has complete knowledge of the language, he who knows every word with its every meaning and usage, he who is aware of human understanding – past, present and future. Only then can he make such a choice of words. This is far beyond human capacity! Moreover, fourteen centuries ago, there were no such Arabic dictionaries and lexicons as available today. And it should be noted that the Prophet (ﷺ) was an *Ummi* (unlettered) and did not know how to read or write. This historical fact refutes much vain talk. Even today, it is not possible for a human being, who can read and write, to produce a book like the Qur'an. And remember that contrary to that of Nostradamus and the likes, the statements of the Glorious Qur'an (related to science, history and prophecies) are meaningful, clear, comprehensible and true. The words used are rich and wise, not vague. Please read the chapter *The Inimitability of the Qur'an* for details on linguistic miracle of the Qur'an. It is the mercy of Allah that the Qur'an can be understood in every age by those who sincerely strive to understand it. Allah has made the Qur'an easy to understand, remember and receive guidance.

Science is the knowledge which human being gets by means of observation of the cosmos (i.e., the creation) and various things and phenomena in it and reasoning based upon it. The Qur'an encourages it. However, it's human to err (though not always) and, therefore, many a times science takes U-turns. For example:

- (i) According to the Qur'an, the sun and the moon rotate and revolve in their own orbits. Science once said that the sun revolves around the earth. Later, it said that the earth revolves around the sun. Since the motion is relative, still it cannot be concluded for sure who revolves around whom, considering all the movements in the universe.
- (ii) Even after it was discovered that the planets revolved around the sun (by Copernicus in 1512) and rotated on their axes (by Kepler in 1609), it was still held that the sun was stationary and did not revolve and rotate. The Qur'an says it does and it was proved later that the sun rotates on its axis and revolves around the centre of the galaxy.
- (iii) The law of conservation of mass and the law of conservation of energy – two separate laws earlier – were proven to be false and replaced by mass-energy equivalence ($E = mc^2$). According to new theory, mass and energy can neither be created nor destroyed but they just transform into one another. It may hold good to physical and chemical reactions but if applied absolutely to the cosmos, then it is no more than a conjecture and it would imply that mass and energy are eternal and that only mass and energy exist. However, what human being has observed or can observe is a very small portion of the cosmos and that too to a very small and limited degree. Things beyond human observation and imagination can surely exist as the observation and imagination of human being is extremely small and limited and nothing can be negated on account of this limitation alone.
- (iv) The atomism was proven false and the Qur'an says that there are things smaller than the atom.

(v) The concept of the relativity, as known today, was lately accepted in science. It carries a new theory of gravity and various new concepts and definitions, contrary to what was held before.

These examples, among others, show the errors, limitations and imperfection of science and the hasty nature of human being. Not only theories and hypotheses (like Darwin's which is only a conjecture at its best) but things which were once regarded as laws and facts in science were later disproved. We should neither disregard science altogether nor extol it beyond limits. We should give it its due credit while acknowledging its imperfection. Science is not the only source of knowledge.

The Qur'an, on the other hand, is the Word of Allah and, therefore, none of its verses has been proven to be false for more than last fourteen centuries. Instead, the accuracy and perfection of the Qur'an is manifested again and again. It satisfies the human being of 21st century just as it satisfied the 7th century human being and this beauty of the Qur'an will last till eternity. It is from Allah – the All-Knowing, the All-Wise – whose wisdom and knowledge is absolutely perfect and complete. Science can never reach such excellence and perfection. We, the Muslims, want to make one thing very clear that our standard (yardstick) is not science but the Glorious Qur'an.

Some people say, “*Science explains how things work, we don't need God as an explanation.*” Just because through science we come to know how various things and phenomena work, it does not disprove Allah's agency in them. Take, for instance, a mobile phone. Just because one comes to know how it works, that does not mean it has no manufacturer and programmer. Allah is the Creator and Ruler of the universe and nothing ever happens anywhere except with His permission. He is the agent on which every act, event and phenomenon

depends – whether we know its mechanics or not – and it is He who has given us knowledge and ability to gain knowledge. Some people even claim that the existence of similarities among various organisms supports Darwinism. However, this is not true. Take, for instance, vehicles. There are similarities among them but they are manufactured and did not evolve on their own. For more details on Darwinism, please read the book *Darwinism Refuted* by Harun Yahya.

(4) The Historical Facts and the Qur'an

The historical accounts in the Qur'an are precise, accurate and remarkable. How could a book revealed fourteen centuries ago in the deserts of Arabia contain such information! These include:

* The King and the Pharaoh

The stories of Prophet Musa (pbuh – peace be upon him) – i.e., Moses (pbuh) – and Prophet Yusuf (pbuh) – i.e., Joseph (pbuh) – are related in the Qur'an in detail so that we learn from them and receive guidance. Both of them lived in ancient Egypt at different times. The Qur'an, while referring to the ruler of Egypt at the time of Prophet Yusuf (pbuh), uses the word *Malik* (king).

﴿ قَالَ الْمَلِكُ اتْشُوْنِي بِهِ أَسْتَخْلِصُهُ لِنَفْسِي ۝ فَلَمَّا كَلَمَهُ قَالَ إِنَّكَ الْيَوْمَ لَدَيْنَا مَكْيَنٌ أَمِينٌ ﴾

"The king said, 'Bring him (i.e., Joseph) to me; I will appoint him exclusively for myself.' And when he spoke to him, he said, 'Indeed, you (O Joseph) are today established (in position) and trusted.'" [The Qur'an 12:54]

However, the Egyptian ruler at the time of Prophet Musa (pbuh) is always mentioned as *Fir'awn* (pharaoh) in the Noble Qur'an.

﴿ وَ لَقَدْ أَتَيْنَا مُوسَى تِسْعَ آيَتِ ۝ بَيْتَنِتِ فَسَأَلَ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ إِذْ جَاءُهُمْ قَالَ لَهُ فِرْعَوْنُ لَئِنِّي لَأَطْهِنَ يَمْوَسِي مَسْحُورًا ﴾

"We had certainly given Moses nine evident signs, so ask the Children of Israel when he came to them and Pharaoh said to him, 'Indeed I think, O Moses, that you are bewitched.'" [The Qur'an 17:101]

In the Qur'an, the Egyptian ruler at the time of Musa (pbuh) is never called king nor is the ruler of Egypt at the time of Yusuf (pbuh) ever called pharaoh. The Bible does not make any distinction between the two. The hieroglyphs deciphered in the 19th century show the reason for the different labels of these rulers. However, by the 4th century, the history of ancient Egypt and understanding of the hieroglyphs was lost. There was no such branch of knowledge called Egyptology and an in-depth knowledge of Egyptian history was unavailable when the Qur'an was being revealed while it was indeed required for one to make such a distinction.

This also is a proof for the divine authorship of the Qur'an and it also refutes the lie that the Qur'an was copied from the Bible.

* *Haman as a Close Person to Pharaoh*

The name *Haman* occurs in the Qur'an as the name of one of the closest persons to the Pharaoh of the time of Musa (pbuh). Surprisingly, it never occurs in those parts of the Bible which relate to the life of Musa (pbuh). It occurs in the Bible, in Book of Esther of the Old Testament, as an enemy of Jews about a thousand years after Musa (pbuh). Some people, who allege that the Prophet (ﷺ) copied the Qur'an from the Bible, claim that he made mistakes while copying and the mention of *Haman* is cited as an example. Such claims are absurd and their absurdity was made evident once again when the name *Haman* was found in the ancient Egyptian scripts after the hieroglyphs were deciphered. The dictionary of people in the New Kingdom, prepared based on the collection of all inscriptions, mentions *Haman* as the head of stone quarry workers. It is in perfect agreement with the Qur'an.

﴿ قَالَ فِرْعَوْنُ يَا أَهْمَّ الْمَلَأُ مَا عَلِمْتُ لَكُمْ مِنْ اللَّهِ غَيْرِيْ ۝ فَأَوْقَدْتِي
يَهَامِنْ عَلَى الْطِينِ فَاجْعَلْ لِي صَرْحًا لَعَلِيْ أَطْلَعَ إِلَى اللَّهِ مُؤْسِنِي وَ
إِنِّي لَا أُظْنَهُ مِنَ الْكَاذِبِينَ ﴾

“Pharaoh said, 'O eminent ones, I have not known you to have a god other than me. Then ignite for me, O Haman, (a fire) upon the clay and make for me a tower that I may look at the God of Moses. And indeed, I think he is of the liars.'”
[The Qur'an 28:38]

The Qur'an thus contains the historical information which was unknown to people at the time of Muhammad (ﷺ).

(5) The Prophecies in the Qur'an and the Prophecies of Muhammad (ﷺ) in Various Religious Scriptures

I. The prophecies made by the Qur'an, which came to be true even though the circumstances in which they were made were quite unfavourable, again indicate the source to be Allah, the Almighty God. These include:

* *The Victory of Romans within Nine years after their Defeat against Persians*

There was a war between the Persians and the Romans in which the Romans were defeated and crushed badly. The Persians were pagans and worshiped sun and fire while the Romans were the People of the Book. The pagans of Makkah used to tell the Muslims, "Our brethren (i.e., the Persians) defeated your brethren (i.e., the Romans)." Then, Allah revealed the following verses:

﴿عَلَيْتِ الرُّومُ فِي أَذْنَى الْأَرْضِ وَهُمْ مِنْ بَعْدِ عَلَيْهِمْ سَيِّغَلِبُونَ﴾
﴿فِي بِضْعِ سِنِينَ لِلَّهِ الْأَمْرُ مِنْ قَبْلٍ وَمِنْ بَعْدٍ وَيَوْمَئِذٍ يُرْجَحُ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ﴾

"The Romans have been defeated in the lowest (or nearest or close by) land, but they, after their defeat, will be victorious within three to nine years. To Allah belongs the command before and after. And that day the believers will rejoice."

[The Qur'an 30:2-4]

According to the apparent circumstances, the Romans' victory over the Persians seemed almost impossible. The pagans of Makkah bet with Abu Bakr (may Allah be pleased with him). The bet was made more than once and before the prohibition on betting was revealed. In a bet the time limit of nine years was set and the prize was one

hundred camels. The Romans defeated the Persians within this time. The truth of the Qur'an became manifest. Many people accepted Islam on this. These verses carry more than a miracle:

- (a) The battle had taken place in the Dead Sea basin, the lowest point on the surface of earth. It could not have been known by any human being at that time.
- (b) The Romans became victorious within the stated time of three to nine years.
- (c) The Roman victory over the Persians coincided with the Muslim victory over the polytheists.

* *The Protection of the Prophet (ﷺ) from being Killed*

﴿ يَا أَيُّهَا الرَّسُولُ بِلْعَ مَا أُنْزِلَ إِلَيْكَ مِنْ رَبِّكَ ۝ وَلَنْ لَمْ تَفْعَلْ فَمَا بَلَغَتِ رِسَالَةُ ۝ وَاللَّهُ يَعْصِمُكَ مِنَ النَّاسِ ۝ لَئِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَهْدِي الْقَوْمَ الْكُفَّارِ ﴾

“O Messenger, announce that which has been revealed to you from your Lord, and if you do not, then you have not conveyed His message. And Allah will protect you from the people.”

[The Qur'an 5:67]

Allah protected His Messenger (ﷺ) from the evil plans of the people of Makkah who bore strong animosity against him and fought several battles against him, and also from the non-Muslims and hypocrites in Madeenah.

* *Abu Lahab's persistence in Disbelief for Ten Years more until his Death*

﴿ سَيُصْلَى نَارًا ذَاتَ لَهِبٍ ﴾

“He (Abu Lahab) will be burnt in a Fire of blazing flames.” [The Qur'an 111:3]

It was possible that he embraces Islam so that the Qur'an could be proved wrong. He had ten years' time. The

Qur'an established it that he did not and will not accept Islam, so his abode will be Hellfire. As predicted, he died without accepting Islam.

II. The prophecies of Muhammad (ﷺ), the final Messenger and final Prophet of Islam, in various religious scriptures¹ are astonishing references to his Prophethood. Allah says in the Qur'an:

﴿ مَا كَانَ مُحَمَّدٌ أَبَا أَحَدٍ مِّنْ رِجَالِكُمْ وَلَكُنْ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ وَخَاتَمُ النَّبِيِّنَ ۚ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمًا ۝ ﴾

“Muhammad is not the father of any of your men, but (he is) the Messenger of Allah, and the Seal of the Prophets. And Allah has full knowledge of all things.” [The Qur'an 33:40]

When a document is sealed, it is complete. There can be no further addition or subtraction. Allah completed the long line of Messengers by sending the final Prophet, Muhammad (ﷺ). There has been and will be no Prophet after Muhammad (ﷺ). The later ages will need scholars and reformers, not Prophets. It is not an arbitrary matter. It is a decree full of knowledge and wisdom, for Allah has full knowledge of all things. Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) said:

﴿ إِنَّ الرِّسَالَةَ وَالشُّبُوَّةَ قَدِ اقْتَطَعْتُ، فَلَا رَسُولَ بَعْدِي وَلَا نَبِيٌّ ۝ ﴾

“Indeed, Messengership and Prophethood have been terminated, so there shall be no Messenger after me, nor any Prophet.”

[Jami at-Tirmidhi, Hadeeth 2272 (Saheeh)]

¹ Muhammad (ﷺ) in the Hindu Scriptures, Dr Ved Prakash Upaddhay; Muhammad (ﷺ) in the Bible, Dr Jamal Badawi; Muhammad (ﷺ) in World Scriptures, Abdul-Haq Vidyarthi; The Choice, Shaikh Ahmed Deedat; ...

(6) The Truthfulness and Trustworthiness of Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ)

Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) lived among the people of Makkah as a common man for 40 years before Allah made him a Prophet. The people of Makkah attested to his truthfulness, trustworthiness, honesty, generosity and good manners. They gave him the title of As-Sadiq (the Truthful) and Al-Ameen (the Trustworthy).

﴿لَمَّا نَزَّلْتُ وَأَنذَرْتُ عَشِيرَتَكَ الْأَقْرَبِينَ﴾ (سورة الشعراء آية ٢١٤)
صَعَدَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ عَلَى الصَّفَا ، فَجَعَلَ يُنَادِي يَا بْنِي فِهِرٍ ، يَا بْنِي عَدِيٍّ ، لِيُنْطُونَ قُرْيَشَ حَتَّى اجْتَمَعُوا ، فَجَعَلَ الرَّجُلُ إِذَا لَمْ يَسْتَطِعْ أَنْ يَخْرُجَ أَرْسَلَ رَسُولًا لِيَنْتَظِرَ مَا هُوَ ، فَجَاءَ أَبُو لَهَبٍ وَ قُرْيَشًا ، فَقَالَ : أَرَأَيْتُكُمْ لَوْ أَخْبَرْتُكُمْ أَنَّ حَيَّلًا بِالْوَادِي تُرِيدُ أَنْ تُغَيِّرَ عَلَيْكُمْ أَكْثُرَمُ مُصَدِّقٍ ؟ قَالُوا : نَعَمْ ، مَا جَرَّبْنَا عَلَيْكَ إِلَّا صِدْقًا ، قَالَ : فَإِنِّي نَذِيرٌ لَكُمْ بَيْنَ يَدَيِّي عَذَابٌ شَدِيدٌ﴾

When it was revealed to Muhammad (ﷺ), “And warn your tribe of near-kindred.” [Al-Qur'an 26:214], he ascended Mount Safa and called various tribes of Quraysh till they were assembled. Those who could not come themselves sent their messengers to see what was there. Abu Lahab and other people from Quraysh came. The Prophet (ﷺ) then said, “Suppose I told you that there is an (enemy) cavalry in the valley intending to attack you, would you believe me?” They said, “Yes, for we have not found you telling anything other than the truth.” He then said, “I am a plain warner to you of a coming severe punishment.” [Saheeh Al-Bukhari, Kitab-ut-Tafseer, Hadeeth 4770]

The message of Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) is the final message of Allah, for all people, and is meant until the Last Day. A lot of evidence is provided to convince a sincere seeker of truth. The Prophet (ﷺ) began his mission at the age of forty without any prior indication of the mission, knowing that his father had died when he was still in his mother's womb and his mother died when he was six years old. Who assured him that he would live after forty to complete his mission? Who made him sure about the success of his mission, even though he had lost relatives before? Indeed, it's Allah alone who says:

﴿ قُلْ لَوْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ مَا تَوَلَّتْهُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَلَا أَدْرِكُمْ بِهِ فَقَدْ لَبِثْتُ فِيهِنَّمُ عُمُراً مِنْ قَبْلِهِ أَفَلَا تَقْتَلُونَ ﴾

“Say (O Prophet): If Allah had willed, I would not have recited it to you, nor would He have made it known to you, for I had remained among you a lifetime before it. Then will you not reason?” [The Qur'an 10:16]

The truthfulness and trustworthiness of Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ), the final Messenger of Islam, is among the evidences of the truthfulness and trustworthiness of the Message of Islam.

(7) The Inimitability of the Qur'an

The inimitability of the Qur'an is the most fundamental proof for it being the Word of Allah. If you think that the Qur'an is not the Word of Allah, then produce a book like it. If not a complete book, then just ten chapters like it. If not ten, just one! Try and produce a chapter like any chapter of the Qur'an which is comparable to it in beauty, eloquence, depth, meaning, information and message. The shortest Surah is hardly ten words!

﴿ ذٰلِكَ الْكِتٰبُ لَا رَبٌّ لَّهُ فِيهٗ هُدٰيٌ لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ ﴾

“This is the Book (of Allah), there is no doubt in it, (in it is) guidance for those who have Taqwa.”¹
[The Qur'an 2:2]

Allah further says:

﴿ وَ لَئِنْ كُثُرْتُمْ فِي رَبِّيٍّ مِّمَّا نَزَّلْنَا عَلٰى عَبْدِنَا فَأَنْثُوا بِسُورَةٍ مِّنْ مِّنْهٖ
وَ ادْعُوا شَهِدَاءَكُمْ مِّنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ لَنْ كُثُرْتُمْ صَدِيقِينَ ○ فَإِنْ لَمْ
تَفْعَلُوا وَ لَنْ تَفْعَلُوا فَاقْتُلُوا النَّازِرَاتِي وَ قُوْدُهَا النَّاسِ وَ الْحِجَارَةُ ○
○ أَعِدْتُ لِلْكُفَّارِينَ ﴾

“And if you are in doubt about what We have sent down (i.e., the Qur'an) upon Our Servant (i.e., Muhammad), then produce a Surah the like thereof and call upon your witnesses (and supporters) other than Allah, if you are truthful. But if you do not – and certainly you cannot – then fear the Fire, whose fuel is people and stones, prepared for the disbelievers.” [The Qur'an 2:23-24]

¹ Taqwa means the virtue to fear and protect oneself (from evils and Allah's displeasure). The Qur'an shows a person with this virtue the Way to attain the pleasure of Allah, peace in this world and paradise in the Hereafter.

This challenge is for all other than Allah. If you think Jinns or some other creatures can do it, let them try. Many people have tried and failed miserably. Some of them accepted Islam. This is the most fundamental of the many proofs for the Qur'an being a revelation from Allah, though it is not the only miraculous aspect of the Qur'an. In order to fully understand this miraculous aspect of the Qur'an one has to be an expert in the Arabic language.

A way for non-Arabs or those not expert in Arabic to understand this miraculous aspect of the Qur'an will be mentioned now is this chapter. The Arabs of the Prophet's time were very eloquent and proud of their language. They had great orators, poets, literati and masters of the language. They were given a simple challenge. Instead of accepting and meeting it, they fought several battles against Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ), putting their lives and properties in risk and losing many of them. They only needed to produce a Surah like any Surah of the Qur'an, meet the challenge and the Prophet's mission would have failed. This shows that it must have been impossible for them; otherwise, they would not have fought so many battles. The Prophet (ﷺ) eventually emerged victorious. They had only to produce a Surah like any Surah of the Qur'an but they did not and, in fact, they could not. This challenge of the Qur'an remains unmet to this day.

For more than fourteen centuries, people have been trying, failing miserably and going into oblivion. The Qur'an is the most influential, the most admired and venerated and the most positive book in the world. Owing to its great merits, it is also the most criticised book in the world, obviously by the wrong people, those ignorant of its message, those who did not understand it, those who misunderstood it and those who hate the Truth.

During the short period of 23 years of its revelation and practical implementation by the Prophet (ﷺ), the complete Arabian Peninsula was transformed from idolatry and paganism to worship of Allah (the one and only true God), from tribal quarrels and wars to national solidarity and cohesion, from drunkenness and debauchery to sobriety and piety, from lawlessness and anarchy to disciplined living, from utter bankruptcy to the highest standards of moral excellence. Human history has never known such a complete transformation of a people or a place before or since; and, imagine, all these unbelievable wonders in just over two decades! Within a century of the Prophet's death at the age of 63, Islam had spread to Spain in the West and as far East as China. It was clear that the message was not limited to the Arabs but was meant for the whole of humanity. The revelation of the Qur'an to Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) and his practical implementation of the revelation completed Allah's blessing for humanity in providing us with a belief and value system valid for all times. The Qur'an confirms the revelations given to earlier Prophets, though these might not be accessible to us, in the form they were originally revealed. This divine message directly appeals to the human mind, heart and soul and has caused it to move nations and civilizations. It will continue to guide those who turn to Allah sincerely until the Last Day.

(8) The Design in the Universe

There is an extremely intricate design, balance and order in the universe, which is maintained with great power, knowledge and wisdom. A slight deviation in it would have led to chaos and destruction. It points to an extremely powerful, knowledgeable and wise Designer, Ruler, Controller and Sustainer of the universe, whom we call Allah (the only true God). A computer, for instance, cannot be a result of random events, chance and coincidence. It is absurd to believe that the design in the universe, which is far more intricate, is without a Designer. The Qur'an says:

﴿اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْحَيُّ الْقَيُّومُ لَا تَأْخُذُهُ سِنَةٌ وَ لَا نُوْمٌ لَهُ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَ مَا فِي الْأَرْضِ﴾

“Allah – there is no deity except Him, the Ever-Living, the Sustainer of (all) existence. Neither drowsiness overtakes Him nor sleep. To Him belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth.” [The Qur'an 2:255]

﴿تَوَكَّلْ عَلَى الْحَيِّ الَّذِي لَا يَئُوفُ وَ سَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِهِ وَ كُفِّرْ بِهِ بِدُّنُوبِ عِبَادِهِ حَيْرًا الَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَ الْأَرْضَ وَ مَا بَيْنَهُمَا﴾

“Rely upon the Ever-Living (Allah) who does not die, and exalt (Him) with His praise. And sufficient is He to be, with the sins of His servants, Aware – He who created the heavens and the earth and whatever is between them.”
[The Qur'an 25:58-59]

﴿إِلَّا لَهُ الْخَلْقُ وَ الْأَمْرُ تَبَرَّكَ اللَّهُ رَبُّ الْعَلَمِينَ﴾

“Indeed, His is the creation and the command; blessed is Allah, the Lord and Sustainer of the worlds.” [The Qur'an 7:54]

If there had been more than one god, it would have led to conflict, disorder, chaos and destruction. They would have fought each other, taking help from some god(s) to overcome other god(s) as we see in mythologies. The multiplicity of gods is intellectually indefensible, considering the unity of design in the universe.

﴿لَوْ كَانَ فِيهِمَا إِلَهٌ إِلَّا اللَّهُ لَفَسَدَتَا ۝ فَسُبْحَنَ اللَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَرْشِ عَمَّا يَصِفُّونَ ﴾

“Had there been therein (in the heavens and the earth) gods besides Allah, then verily both (the heavens and the earth) would have been ruined. Glorified be Allah, the Lord of the Throne, (High is He) above what they attribute to Him!”

[The Qur'an 21:22]

A similar message is given in the Qur'an, Surah 17, Ayah 42 and Surah 23, Ayah 91.

(9) The Big Bang: Chaos or Order!

The scientists explain the creation of the universe as a widely accepted phenomenon, known as the Big Bang. According to it, the whole universe was initially one entity (Primary Nebula) and then there was a ‘Big Bang’ (Secondary Separation) which resulted in the formation of galaxies, stars, planets, the sun, the moon, etc. The point to be noted here is that it must have been under the control of a transcendent and powerful agency; otherwise, it would have led to chaos and disorder and not to the balance and order that we find in the universe.

﴿أَمْ خَلَقُوا مِنْ عِنْدِ شَيْءٍ أَمْ هُمُ الْخَلَقُونَ ﴾ أَمْ خَلَقُوا السَّمَاوَاتِ وَ
﴿الْأَرْضَ ۚ بَلْ لَا يُوقْنَوْنَ﴾

“Or were they created by nothing, or were they the creators (of themselves)? Or did they create the heavens and the earth? Rather, they are not certain.” [The Qur'an 52:35-36]

Nothing cannot create anything as it is itself non-existent. One cannot create itself because it was already non-existent. According to the Big Bang, not only did matter and energy not exist before the Big Bang but also space and time did not exist. So, where did everything come from? We do not see something coming from nothing but this universe has a beginning. It points to a transcendent being (Almighty Allah) whose nature is different from that of this universe, whose time and place is incomparable with the worldly time and space, and He is the Creator of mass-energy and space-time. It is possible that there were (created) things (even) before this universe and there are surely things beyond the reach of our observation. However, an infinite series of creators, causes or dependees is logically absurd as will be elaborated in the next chapter – The Dependency.

(10) The Dependency

When we consider the universe and various things and phenomena in it, we find that they are created, caused and dependent. If two or more things seem to be interdependent for certain needs, yet they depend on other things for other needs or even (partly) for the same needs for which they seem to be interdependent. Interdependence means being mutually dependent, not independent. If it is supposed that all things in the universe are mutually interdependent, it would again lead to the realization of the dependence of the universe as a whole, for such a configuration and design, on a transcendent and absolutely Independent Being.

A depender (creation) depends on a dependee (creator) and if that dependee (creator) depends on another dependee (another creator), then this series of dependers and dependees (creations and creators) continues but it cannot continue to infinity because if it continues to infinity, then nothing would have been existent nor any need fulfilled. To understand this, suppose that you have to move a heavy table for which you require help of another person. You ask someone to help you but he says that he will help you if another person helps him and that another person puts the same condition and this series goes on to infinity. Will the table ever get moved? No! But if the table has got moved that means the series ended at a person who did not need the help of another person.

Therefore, the series of dependers and dependees ends at the independent dependee and the series of creations and creators ends at the uncreated creator. Our existence is a sign of the existence of Allah, on whom all things (including us) depend but He does not depend on anything. He is the (uncreated) Creator of all things.

﴿اللَّهُ خَالِقٌ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَّهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَّكَافِلٌ﴾

“Allah is the Creator of all things. And He is, over all things, the Guardian and Disposer of all affairs.” [The Qur'an 39:62]

﴿إِنَّا كُلَّ شَيْءٍ خَلَقْنَاهُ بِقَدْرٍ﴾

“Indeed, We created all things with predestination.” [The Qur'an 54:49]

Allah has destined for everything its characteristics which are a part of its Qadr (Destiny). So, not only the second last entity in the finite series (of dependers and dependees) mentioned above depends on the independent dependee (Allah) but all things depend on Allah. The universe and various things and phenomena in it do not have the will (choice) to choose their Qadr or change it on their own. That's the Creator's job.

Allah destines perfectly and absolutely. He is the doer of all that He intends and He has absolute power over all things. We as human beings have a limited free will because Allah has willed so.

﴿وَمَا تَشَاءُونَ إِلَّا أَن يَشَاءَ اللَّهُ﴾

“And you do not will except that Allah wills.”
[The Qur'an 76:30]

The assigning of characteristics to all things is done by a single being – Allah – with enormous power and skill. If there had been more than one such beings, it would have led to conflict, disorder and chaos, and the design and entire fabric of the universe would have been destroyed.

﴿قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ ﴿ۚ﴾ اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ ﴿ۚ﴾ لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُوَلَدْ ﴿ۚ﴾ وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَّهُ كُفُواً أَحَدٌ﴾

“Say: He (my Lord) is Allah, the One and Only; Allah, the Absolute and Eternal; He begets not, nor is He begotten; and there is none like unto Him.” [The Qur'an 112:1-4]

The Arabic word ‘As-Samad’ translated as ‘the Absolute and Eternal’ also means the One who is not dependent on any person or thing but all persons and things are dependent on Him (i.e., the independent dependee).

﴿يَأَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّمَا الْفُقَرَاءُ إِلَى اللَّهِ هُوَ الْغَنِيُّ الْحَمِيدُ﴾

“O humankind, you are those in need of Allah, while Allah is the Free of need, the Praiseworthy.”
[The Qur'an 35:15]

﴿لَيْسَ كَعَالِهِ شَيْءٌ وَ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ﴾

“There is nothing like unto Him; and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.” [The Qur'an 42:11]

Allah – the Exalted and Glorious – is not like any person or thing that we see or can imagine. His nature and attributes are unique. He cannot be judged or measured by the standards or metrics of the creation.

(11) The Comprehensive and Noble Teachings

The comprehensive and noble teachings of Islam are among the proofs of its truthfulness. Islam is a complete way of life and it is the solution to the problems of humanity. It provides guidelines for a just and peaceful society, proper human conduct and an equitable economic system. Man-made systems can never reach such excellence and perfection. Islam deals with all the subjects that concern us as human beings: beliefs (especially Tawheed or Islamic Monotheism), wisdom, morals, ethics, doctrine, worship, code of conduct and law. The teachings of Islam are applicable to all people at all times. One can earn Allah's favour through true belief and righteous deeds only – not through race, caste, colour, wealth, gender, age, etc. This is the fundamental message of all the Prophets of Islam. Every Messenger called his people to the worship of Allah alone and to his obedience as the Messenger of Allah. A person with pure nature and sound intellect naturally believes in and accepts the teachings of Islam when he knows them correctly. The Qur'an convinces a person with pure nature and sound intellect that it is from God.

﴿إِنَّ هَذَا الْقُرْآنَ يَهْدِي لِلّٰتِي هِيَ أَقْوَمُ وَ يُبَشِّرُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ الَّذِينَ يَعْمَلُونَ الصَّالِحَاتِ أَنَّ لَهُمْ أَجْرًا كَيْرًا﴾

“Indeed, this Qur'an guides to that which is most suitable and gives glad tidings to the believers who do righteous deeds that they will have a great reward.” [The Qur'an 17:9]

Islam teaches pure monotheism, has the only preserved scriptures and gives respect to all Prophets. Islam advocates excellent moral values, modesty and chastity. Islam encourages reasoning and seeking knowledge. It preaches individual accountability and rejects the concept

of Original Sin. It teaches balance, mercy and forgiveness, and calls to equality of humankind and opposes discrimination on the basis of caste, colour, race etc. while stating true faith and righteous deeds to be the only criterion for superiority in the sight of Allah. It gives freedom of religion, not of committing crimes in the name of religion, while making it clear that Islam is the only way to salvation. Islam promotes justice, peace and universal brotherhood. It protects human rights, including the rights of parents, women, relatives, neighbours, orphans, widows and needy, and also the rights of animals. It teaches all noble virtues, such as: honesty, truthfulness, trustworthiness, humbleness, compassion, and so on.

Islam is without doubt the best religion but the enemies of Islam spread false information against Islam, misquote Islamic scriptures and project points out of proportion. Their allegations against Islam are refuted when examined in the light of facts and Islamic texts understood correctly in proper context.

(12) The Remarkable Accuracy and Perfection of the Qur'an

There is no verse of the Qur'an which is proven to be incorrect. Instead, the accuracy and perfection of the Qur'an is amazing and convinces a sincere seeker of truth that it is the truth from Allah. Suppose, you get the top eye specialist of the world to write a book about eye, it will not be difficult to find mistakes in that book and to excel it in the light of more knowledge and new discoveries. With the passage of time, more mistakes will be found. If a professor of a college writes, the mistakes will be more. If a student of a college writes, mistakes will be much more. If a layman writes, the mistakes will be too many. And with the passage of time, more mistakes will be found in their works and better books will be written. The greatest scientists of humanity have made scientific mistakes. The greatest men in literature etc. have made mistakes in their works. But here is a book, the Qur'an, presented by an unlettered man with such a remarkable accuracy, precision and perfection with regard to science, literature, history, geography, society, prophecies, economics, law, justice, morals, theology, politics, and so on, yet not a single mistake is proven in fourteen centuries. What is it if not a miracle!

﴿ أَفَلَا يَنْدَرِجُونَ الْقُرْآنَ ۚ وَلَوْ كَانَ مِنْ عِنْدِ غَيْرِ اللَّهِ لَوْجِدُوا فِيهِ
اِخْتِلَافًا كَثِيرًا ﴾

“Do they not reflect on the Qur'an? Had it been from (any) other than Allah, surely they would have found in it much discrepancy.”

[The Qur'an 4:82]

Just prove a single contradiction or mistake in the Qur'an and the Qur'an will be disproved to be the Word of God. You will never be able to do so. It's a challenge. You may

misunderstand something in the Qur'an and feel that it's a mistake but after careful consideration and convincing reply your misunderstanding will vanish. No one has been nor would anyone ever be able to prove any contradiction or mistake in the Qur'an.

(13) The Preservation of the Qur'an, the Sunnah and the Arabic Language

The Qur'an is the Word of Allah which was revealed to Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) in Arabic language more than 1400 years ago. It is preserved in its original Arabic form. The translations and interpretations of the Qur'an in other languages help us to come closer to the original but they are human handiwork and contain mistakes as well. They can neither replace the original nor are they meant to do so. Arabic is not only a living language but a major language of the world. The Arabic language has the honour of being widely spoken language for (at least) one and a half millennium.

The scriptures of most religions have been distorted and their original languages have become dead. Since the Qur'an is meant to be followed until the Last Day, it has been preserved – both in recitation and in writing. No one has been nor would anyone be able to change any word of the Qur'an because Allah has promised to protect it as He says:

﴿إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الْذِكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَفِظُونَ﴾

“We have, without doubt, sent down the Message (and the Reminder); and We will assuredly guard it.” [The Qur'an 15:9]

Allah has preserved not only the Qur'an but also the Sunnah of the Prophet (ﷺ) and the Arabic language – which are required to understand the message of Islam. That's phenomenal. The message of Islam with its original language is preserved, accessible and being propagated. Why not so with the other religions? The preservation of the Qur'an is the fulfilment of the prophecy and promise made in the Qur'an. In the last fourteen centuries, many people have attempted to change, distort and even

obliterate the Qur'an but they have failed miserably and all such attempts will continue to fail. This also is a sign that the Qur'an is from Allah, the Almighty.

(14) Where is Allah?

Allah has power over all things and knowledge of all things but He Himself is above, the Highest, above the heavens and above Al-Arsh (the Throne) in a manner that suits His Majesty, distinct from His entire creation and not in it. The Qur'an says:

﴿الرَّحْمَنُ عَلَى الْعَرْشِ اسْتَوَى﴾

“The Most Gracious (Allah) is established above the Throne.” [The Qur'an 20:5]

The words ‘Istawa Ala’ used in various places in the Qur'an signify to rise over something and to be high, elevated and established over, on or above something. Allah is high, elevated and established over and above the Throne in a manner that suits His Majesty. Everything other than Allah is His creation including the Throne and He does not depend on His creation. Instead, everything other than Him depends on Him. Allah's Throne is one of His creations and He knows how it is. We should not assume it to be like the thrones of human beings. Allah being above His Throne is not like us being on our thrones. Some people, who don't realize this, argue that Allah being above the Throne means that He (Ma'az-Allaah) is either equal to or smaller than it, not greater than it. However, this is absurd. The seven heavens are above us, the Throne is above the heavens, yet the heavens and the Throne are much greater than us. Allah is the Greatest and there is nothing comparable to or like Him. The Qur'an (87:1) says:

﴿سَيِّدُ الْأَعْلَى﴾

“Glorify the Name of your Lord, the Most High.”

And the Qur'an (2:255) says:

﴿ وَ هُوَ الْعَلِيُّ الْعَظِيمُ ﴾

“And He is the Highest, the Greatest.”

Allah being above, the Highest and above the Throne is known through evidence but one cannot imagine or exemplify its howness or manner. Allah has a real and unique existence. He is transcendent and there is no likeness of Him. The Qur'an says in various places, such as 7:54; 10:3; 13:2; 25:59; 32:4; and 57:4, that Allah created the heavens and the earth in six Days or stages or periods of time (Ayyaam) and established Himself above the Throne in a manner that suits His Majesty. The Qur'an says:

﴿ لَيْسَ كَمِثْلَهُ شَيْءٌ وَ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ ﴾

“There is nothing like unto Him; and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing.” [The Qur'an 42:11]

The Qur'an 70:4; 35:10; 16:102; 6:18, 61 and 16:50 say that things ascend to Him and descend from Him and He is above His creation in a manner which suits His Majesty and which we cannot imagine or exemplify. He is not like any person or thing that we see or can imagine. His nature and attributes are unique and cannot be judged and measured by the standards and metrics of the creation. Allah hears and sees in the manner that suits His Majesty, not like us or any other creation. Such similarities between Allah's attributes and those of humankind exist only in name, not in manner or degree. When used in reference to Allah, they are taken in the absolute sense, free from human deficiencies, and their *Kayfiyah* (howness or manner) is unknown to all of us.

Allah, unlike His creation, has no gender. The word *Huwa* (He) for Allah is used only as unreal masculine pronoun in Arabic, not as real masculine pronoun, because linguistically the word 'Allah' falls in that category. Moreover, the word 'Allah' has no plural. The

word *Nahnu* (We) is used by Allah in the Qur'an as the royal plural or the plural of respect, not as the plural of number. Allah also uses the singular pronouns (*Ana*, etc.) in the Qur'an which mean: I, Me, My etc.

All the Names and Attributes of Allah are unique; they have different meanings, e.g., mercy is different from knowledge and Allah is *Ar-Raheem* (the Most Merciful) and also *Al-Aleem* (the All-Knowing) and all of them point to Him alone and no one else; they are His own, not granted by someone; they are perfect, not with limitations and errors; and they are eternal, have always existed and will exist always. Allah is the only one and also the best one to manifest His Names and Attributes as and when He wills. E.g., His name and attribute of being *Al-Khaliq* (the Creator, the only one who can create something from nothing and also something from other things) got manifested when He created.

We must describe Allah only as He has described Himself in the Noble Qur'an and His Messenger has described Him in the Saheeh Ahadeeth, affirming the obvious meanings of His Names and Attributes, without giving them meanings other than their obvious meanings and without trying to explain their *Kayfiyah* (howness or manner) because none of us knows their *Kayfiyah*. We must not give Him new names and attributes or the attributes of His creation. Allah's Names and Attributes must not be given to His creation. Only He has these Loftiest and Most Beautiful Names and Attributes and only He deserves to be worshipped.

(15) Conclusion

Islam is the only religion and way of life which has the evidence that it is the truth. The Glorious Qur'an is the book of guidance from Allah, the only true God, with the evidence and the message combined. It is the constitution revealed for the whole world. It makes the truth clear and invites to the Right Path. The people who understand and follow it are raised to the highest moral, intellectual and social standard and in the Hereafter a great reward awaits them. It leads them to the ultimate and ever-lasting success, achievement, honour and satisfaction. The people who reject it, on the contrary, degrade, degenerate and decay and a great torment awaits them in the Hereafter. They are led to the ultimate and everlasting failure, loss, humiliation and regrets.

The Qur'an is an eternal miracle given to Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) as proof of his Prophethood and a challenge to all other than Allah. By understanding it, we know our Creator as He has described Himself, we know the purpose of life on this earth and what we are supposed to do in this life, we become aware of the consequences of our beliefs and actions, and we know we have to worship Allah alone and follow the Sunnah of His Messenger (ﷺ) recorded in the Saheeh Ahadeeth, we know we have to be just with our fellow human beings and make good and lawful use of the things which Allah has put under our control.

The Qur'an confirms and renews the relationship between human being and his Creator and reinstates the sincere and correct worship of Allah, who says:

﴿فَلَيُسْتَجِئُوا إِنَّ وَلَيُؤْمِنُوا بِنِي لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْشُدُونَ﴾

“Then let them respond to Me and believe in Me that they may be rightly guided.” [The Qur'an 2:186]

The Qur'an contains the same message of the Oneness of God, the Prophethood and the accountability in the Hereafter that was conveyed by all the Prophets of God from Adam to Muhammad (peace be upon them).

This booklet presents a brief introduction to Islam and some evidence for the truthfulness of Islam. Some people accept the truth on knowing only one or a few signs. Some require more to be convinced and then they accept. Allah has promised to show every human being His signs until it becomes clear to him that this is the truth. Some close their eyes, ears and hearts to the truth and do not affirm and speak the truth. The Qur'an condemns such a closed mentality.

﴿ صُمُّ بَلْ كُمْ عُمَّى فَهُمْ لَا يَرْجِعُونَ ﴾

“Deaf, dumb and blind, they will not return (to the Right Path).” [The Qur'an 2:18]

Every human being is born as a Muslim and so were they. They have gone far away from Islam and their attitude has made them a hopeless case. Imagine! Our Lord, Allah, who cares for our material needs and has created for us so many things, has He left us without any (spiritual) message and guidance? No, besides granting us a sound nature and ability to reason, He has made the truth very clear by sending His Prophets and Messengers from the very beginning with clear proofs and revealing a divine book in every age for the people of the respective age according to their requirements and circumstances. According to the Qur'an and the Saheeh Ahadeeth, Islam is the one and only faith and way of life consistently revealed by Allah to humankind from the very beginning. Aadam (Adam), Nooh (Noah), Sulayman (Solomon), Dawood (David), Ibraheem (Abraham), Musa (Moses), Eesa (Jesus) and many others (peace be upon them) – Prophets of Islam who appeared at different times and

places – conveyed the same basic message of *at-Tawheed* (Islamic Monotheism), *ar-Risalah* (the Messengership) and *al-Aakhirah* (the Hereafter). They were not the founders of different religions.

The original message of the Prophets, who came before Muhammad (ﷺ), was distorted and split into various religions by people of different ages. They invented new things in the religion for which they had no authority. They omitted and hid the truth in the original scriptures which did not suit their desires. They changed the original scriptures and attributed their own writings to God. The Books given to those Prophets were meant only for a limited time and place and not for all humankind until the Last Day. Allah did not preserve them while He could have if He wanted. Rather, their preservation was left as a test to the people.

Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) is the last and final Prophet of Islam and the message which he brought is meant till the Last Day. So, it was preserved by Allah to be the source of guidance until the Last Day. The Glorious Qur'an and the Saheeh Ahadeeth contain a complete code of life for the individual and society. The Islamic way of life is far superior to the ways that human being has invented out of sheer ignorance.

﴿لَئِنْ الَّذِينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ وَمَا اخْتَلَفُ الْأَنْبِيَاءُ إِذْ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ
إِلَّا مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا جَاءَهُمُ الْعِلْمُ بَعْدَ إِيمَانِهِمْ وَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ بِآيَاتِ اللَّهِ
فَلَنَّ اللَّهُ سَرِيعُ الْحِسَابِ﴾

“Indeed, the only religion and way of life acceptable in the sight of Allah is Islam. And those who were given the Scripture did not differ except after knowledge had come to them – out of jealous animosity among them. And whoever

disbelieves in the Signs of Allah, then indeed, Allah is swift in (taking) account.” [The Qur'an 3:19]

﴿ وَمَنْ يَتَّبِعُ غَيْرَ الْإِسْلَامَ فَلَنْ يُفْلِحَ مِنْهُ ۚ وَهُوَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ
مِنَ الْخَسِيرِينَ ﴾

“And whoever desires other than Islam as religion – never will it be accepted of him; and in the Hereafter, he will be among the losers.”

[The Qur'an 3:85]

It is Allah whose orders and laws the full universe follows and it is He who has given us a limited free will to test us and make the righteous and the wicked evident with a complete record of their intentions, thoughts and deeds.

﴿ تَبَرَّكَ الَّذِي بِيَدِهِ الْمُلْكُ وَهُوَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ۝ الَّذِي
خَلَقَ الْمَوْتَ وَالْحَيَاةَ لِيَتَّلَوُّمُ إِلَيْكُمْ أَخْسَثَ عَمَلاً ۚ وَهُوَ الْغَفِيرُ
الْغَفُورُ ﴾

“Blessed is He in whose hand is the Dominion, and He is over all things competent – He who created death and life to test you as to which of you is best in deed – and He is the Exalted in Might, the Oft-Forgiving.” [The Qur'an 67:1-2]

The life in this world is a test for the next life in a different world – the Hereafter – which is far better (for the righteous believers) and everlasting. Yet most people prefer this world over the Hereafter. Allah has given every human being some time in this world and a limited free will to make the choices between good and evil, truth and error. After he dies, he will be resurrected on the Day of Judgment with the rest of humankind. A person may receive some reward or punishment in this world but the final reward and punishment will only be given in the Hereafter by Allah, the All-Just.

﴿ كُلُّ نَفْسٍ ذَاتِهِ الْمُوْتُ ۚ وَ لِئَمَا شَوَّفُونَ أُجْزُوا مِمَّا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ ۚ فَمَنْ رُحِّزَ عَنِ الْكَارِ وَ أَذْخَلَ الْجَنَّةَ فَقَدْ فَازَ ۚ وَ مَا الْحَيَاةُ الدُّنْيَا ۚ إِلَّا مَتَاعُ الْغُرُورِ ﴾

“Every soul will have a taste of death, and only on the Day of Judgment shall you be paid your recompense in full. Only he who is saved far from the Hellfire and admitted to the Paradise will have attained the (ultimate) success. And the life of this world is but goods and chattels of deception.” [The Qur'an 3:185]

﴿ وَ مَا جَعَلْنَا لِلنَّاسِ مِنْ قَبْلِكَ الْحُلْمُ ۚ أَفَإِنْ هُنَّ مِنْ قَوْمٍ يَخْلُدُونَ ۚ كُلُّ نَفْسٍ ذَاتِهِ الْمُوْتُ ۚ وَ تَبَلُّقُكُمْ بِالشَّرِّ وَ الْحُكْمُ فِيْهِ ۚ وَ إِلَيْنَا تُرْجَعُونَ ﴾

“And We did not grant to any human being before you eternity (on earth); so if you die (O Prophet) – would they live forever? Every soul will taste death. And We test you with evil and with good as trial; and to Us you will be returned.” [The Qur'an 21:34-35]

We should have a balance of hope in Allah's mercy and fear of His punishment. The purpose of our life is to worship Allah alone in the way taught by His Messenger (ﷺ). We should be grateful for the countless blessings and favours of Allah and especially grateful in prosperity and patient in adversity. Whatever we do is being recorded with our thoughts, beliefs and intentions. We must follow the Guidance of Allah because that is the only way to salvation and ultimate success. We should also have genuine hope and concern for others to be guided. Finally, we all have to return to Allah and be accountable.

Recommended Study Material

Books

- * *The Meaning of The Holy Qur'an – English translation of the meanings and commentary (Abdullah Yusuf Ali)*, King Fahd Holy Qur'an Printing Complex
- * *The Qur'an – Arabic Text with corresponding English Meanings (Umm Muhammad)*, Saheeh International
- * *A Word for Word Meaning of the Qur'an (Muhammad Mohar Ali)*, Jam'yat Ihyaa' Minhaaj Al-Sunnah (JIMAS)
- * *Tafsir As-Sa'di* (Abdur-Rahman Nasir As-Sa'di), International Islamic Publishing House (IIPH)
- * *Tafsir Ibn Kathir* (Al-Hafiz Ibn Kathir), Darussalam
- * *Usool at-Tafseer* (Dr Bilal Philips), International Islamic Publishing House (IIPH)
- * *Usool Al-Hadeeth* (Dr Bilal Philips), International Islamic Publishing House (IIPH)
- * *The Fundamentals of Tawheed* (Dr Bilal Philips), International Islamic Publishing House (IIPH)
- * *Islamic Creed Series* (Umar S. Al-Ashqar), International Islamic Publishing House (IIPH)
- * *The Qur'an and the Orientalists* (Muhammad Mohar Ali), Jam'yat Ihyaa' Minhaaj Al-Sunnah (JIMAS)
- * *The History of the Qur'anic Text* (Muhammad Mustafa Al-Azami), Turath Publishing
- * *This is the Truth* (Abdullah M. Al-Rehaili), Al-Haramain Islamic Foundation
- * *The Unchallengeable Miracles of the Qur'an* (Yusuf Al-Hajj Ahmad), Darussalam
- * *The Qur'an and Modern Science* (Dr Zakir Naik), Darussalam
- * *The Bible, the Qur'an and Science* (Dr Maurice Bucaille), A. S. Noordeen

- * *Treasures in the Sunnah* (Dr Zaghloul An-Najjar), Al-Falah Foundation
- * *A Brief Illustrated Guide to Understanding Islam* (I. A. Ibrahim), Darussalam
- * *The Difference between the Shee'ah and the Muslims* (Sa'eed Isma'eel), Al-Haramain Islamic Foundation
- * *The Mirage in Iran* (Dr Bilal Philips), Tawheed Publications
- * *The Sealed Nectar* (Safi-ur-Rahman Mubarakpuri), Darussalam
- * *The Choice* (Ahmed Deedat), Dakwah Corner Publications
- * *Bulugh Al-Maram* (Al-Hafiz Ibn Hajar Al-Asqalani; with Brief Notes from the Book Subul-us-Salam), Darussalam
- * *The Explanation of Imam Nawawi's 40 Hadith* (Dr Saalih Al-Fawzan), Darussalam
- * *Riyad-us-Saliheen* (Imam Nawawi; Commentary by Hafiz Salahuddin Yusuf), Darussalam

Lectures & Dialogues with QA Sessions

- * *The Qur'an and Modern Science – Conflict or Conciliation?*
Dr Zakir Naik, Mumbai, India, 1996
- * *Is the Qur'an God's Word?*
Dr Zakir Naik, Mumbai, India, 2007
- * *Deceit of Atheism*
Abdur-Raheem Green, Dubai International Peace Convention (DIPC), Dubai, UAE, 2012
- * *The Qur'an and the Bible in the Light of Science*
Dr Zakir Naik & Dr William Campbell, Chicago, USA, 2000
- * *The Concept of God in Hinduism and Islam in the Light of the Sacred Scriptures*
Sri Sri Ravi Shankar & Dr Zakir Naik, Bangalore, India, 2006
- * *Women's Rights in Islam – Liberated or Subjugated?*
Dr Zakir Naik, Mumbai, India, 2009

The Qur'an and the Saheeh Ahadeeth are the only final and infallible authority in Islam. If any saying, opinion or action of anyone conforms to the Qur'an and the Saheeh Ahadeeth, then it is to be accepted as Islamic. However, if anything is found against the Qur'an or the Saheeh Ahadeeth, then it is Islamically incorrect. May Allah make our efforts for His sake and service alone! May He accept our humble efforts for spreading the message of His Deen! All praise and thanks are for Allah, the Lord and Cherisher of the Worlds.

- Asif Malik
